

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Claims 33-40** are pending.

**Claims 9-17 and 23-32** are canceled herein.

**Claims 1-8 and 18-22** were previously canceled.

**Claims 33-40** are newly added.

1-32. **(Canceled).**

33. **(New)** An apparatus for protecting and retaining a wire, the apparatus comprising:

a first foot portion having at least one aperture therethrough;

a second foot portion having at least two apertures therethrough; and

an interconnecting portion connecting the first foot portion to the second foot portion, wherein the first foot portion, the second foot portion and the interconnecting portion form a passage beneath the interconnecting portion and between the first foot portion and the second foot portion adapted to receive the wire and retain the wire between the interconnecting portion and a mounting structure, wherein the apertures extending through said first and second foot portions also extend through said interconnecting portion;

a staple for securing the apparatus to the mounting structure, said staple having a first leg and a second leg being spaced from said first leg by a predetermined standard distance, said first leg being received in an aperture of the first foot portion and said second leg being received in an aperture of the second foot portion, wherein the apparatus is adapted to prevent the staple from abutting the wire; and

identifying indicia on said interconnecting portion adjacent to each aperture of said first and second foot portions, said indicia comprising information relating to said predetermined standard distance, so as to indicate the correct aperture placement of said staple within the apparatus in relation to its size.

34.     **(New)** The apparatus of claim 33, further comprising at least one of protruding grips and grooves disposed on outer edges of the opposed ends of the polymeric body.
35.     **(New)** The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the indicia are disposed on a top surface of the polymeric body and identify a size of the staple and a size of the retainer on which the indicia are placed.
36.     **(New)** The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the staple is integrated into the polymeric body, such that prongs of the staple extend outward from the polymeric body.
37.     **(New)** The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the first foot portion, second foot portion, and interconnecting portion are molded.
38.     **(New)** The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the first foot portion, second foot portion, and interconnecting portion form a molded polymeric body.
39.     **(New)** The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the indicia comprise measurements.
40.     **(New)** The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the indicia comprise a barcode.